

OLL 85-1899

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Office of Legislative Liaison

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Routing Slip

TO:	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OLL		X
2. DD/OLL		X
3. Admin Officer		
4. Liaison		X
5. Legislation	X	
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SUSPENSE

16 July 85

Date

Action Officer:

Remarks:

*Action completed by Telean
to OMB*

5 July 85

Name/Date

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OLL 85-1809

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Office of Legislative Liaison
Routing Slip

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TO:	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OLL		X
2. DD/OLL		X
3. Admin Officer		
4. Liaison		X
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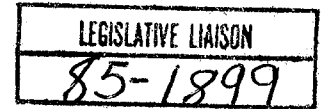
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503



July 2, 1985

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

Chrono

TO: Department of Justice
Central Intelligence Agency ✓
Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations

SUBJECT: GSA report on H.R. 2403, a bill "To require that public buildings constructed or altered under the Public Buildings Act of 1959 comply, to the maximum extent feasible, with nationally recognized model codes and with local zoning laws and certain other laws."

The Office of Management and Budget requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President, in accordance with Circular A-19.

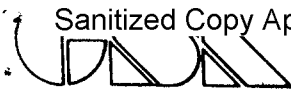
Please provide us with your views no later than
July 16, 1985. A hearing on this bill is scheduled for 7/25/85.

Direct your questions to Gregory Jones (395-3454), of this office.


James C. Murr for
Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

cc: M. Chaffee
W. Austermann



Services

Administration

Washington, DC 20405

Honorable James J. Howard
Chairman, Committee on
Public Works and Transportation
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Your Committee requested the views of the General Services Administration (GSA) on H.R. 2403, a bill "To require that public buildings constructed or altered under the Public Buildings Act of 1959 comply, to the maximum extent feasible, with nationally recognized model codes and with local zoning laws and other certain laws."

H.R. 2403 would make law a procedure that GSA has followed in the past. Our "Quality Standards for Design and Construction," PBS P 3430.1, has contained the following requirements for some time:

"It is GSA policy, however, to follow local codes and zoning ordinances to the fullest extent practical to accommodate local authorities having jurisdiction over fire and police protection and zoning in the area, and to ensure that the building is marketable, should it be decided to sell the building. Local codes which unduly restrict competition or limit innovation should not be adhered to."

We believe that the mandatory use of one of the three model building codes can easily be accommodated within our program. It should be noted, however, that several states continue to author their own statewide building codes, among them New York, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. We believe that in these states we should utilize the model code that is most prevalent in the regional area. Compliance with all provisions of the local code should continue to be an advisory provision as it would be extremely difficult for GSA to maintain within a regional office knowledge of every local amendment to a model code. We further concur with the bill's direction to utilize the national electric code, the national fire and life safety codes, and the national plumbing code.

It is important that the limitations on local procedural requirements be maintained in the bill as written. We are concerned that required compliance with local submission and review procedures could again lengthen the Federal design and construction process that we have worked hard to shorten. Further, we support the provision that frees local jurisdictions from mandatory review and inspection obligations.

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We believe that this bill will help further diminish the perceived differences between Federal construction and private construction. We encourage the interaction with local officials that the bill will foster.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

Sincerely,